



***** EDITORIAL ***** by John Kellas

From all reports recieved, the Annual RPA Picnic proved to be alot of fun and everyone had plenty to eat. Prehaps a Fall picnic could be arranged? How about some feedback on this idea!! We have three important dates this month to plan for, the "Peace Bridge" issues (U.S. & Canadian issues), the "Herkimer at Oriskany" issue, and CINCOPEX '77. Something for all philatelic interests. Don't forget about this month's INFORMAL RPA Gatherings.

***** SUMMER CALENDAR *****

August 4th - U.S. & CANADIAN "Peace Bridge" issues; a joint ceremony will be held at Kleinhans Music Hall on Symphony Circle in Buffalo, N.Y.

August 6th - "Herkimer at Oriskany" issue, Herkimer, N.Y. 13350.

August 6&7th - CINCOPEX '77, stamp exhibition and bourse. National Guard Armony, Black River Blvd. Rome N.Y. Adm. Free. 10 to 6 Sat., 10 to 6 Sun. * An exhibition cachet cover will be sold at 50¢ each, 3 for \$1.25 and will feature the 2¢ Burgoyne stamp noting the Siege of Fort Stanwix & Battle of Oriskany. A souvenir 8x6 card showing an air view of Fort Stanwix and the 2¢ Burgoyne with the story of the siege and battle. They're \$1.25 mint & \$1.50 w/show cancel of the day. Mail orders for covers or souvenir cards should be sent to Franklyn Rudd, 614 North James Street, Rome, N.Y. 13440.

August 11 & 25th - RPA INFORMALS, 155 Murray Street, 7:30pm.

***** LIBRARY BOOKS *****

This summer the RPA Library is being reorganized. PLEASE, PLEASE, return all RPA books that you have checked out so that an inventory can be taken!!! Books can be returned to Pres. Richard Hall at the INFORMAL gatherings.

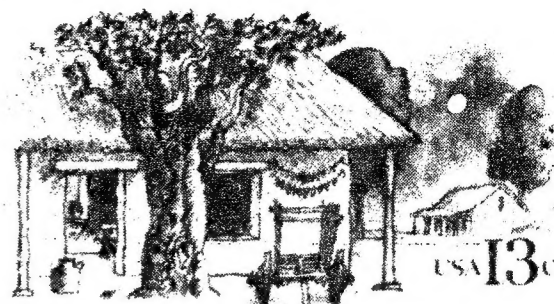
REMEMBER REGULAR RPA MEETINGS. START IN SEPTEMBER.

New 'Stamps and Stories'

The fourth edition of the U.S. Postal Service's "Stamps and Stories" book is currently being distributed to all Management Sectional Centers, according to the USPS "Postal Bulletin" dated July 14.

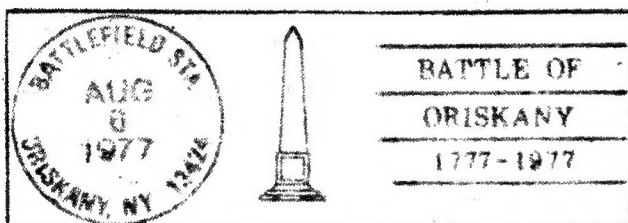
To retail at \$3.50 each, the new book will be placed on sale at local post offices on Sept. 1.

The new book contains the 1978 stamp values, plus new features, new stories, and the complete 1977 commemorative stamp issues, the USPS adds.

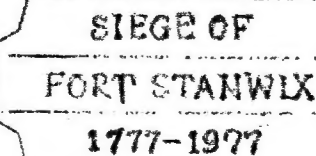
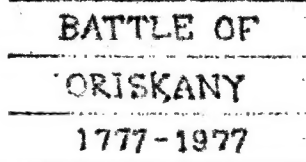


First Civil Settlement - Alta California - 1777

The 200th anniversary of the first civil settlement in northern California (Alta California) will be marked Sept. 9 with this 13c commemorative.



A special cancellation will be used in Oriskany, N.Y., in conjunction with the issuance of the Herkimer at Oriskany commemorative on Aug. 6.



Which state of the U.S. has the most post offices? If you guessed New York or California or Illinois, you'd be wrong. Pennsylvania has a total of 1,791 post offices, followed in descending numerical order by New York, 1,630; Texas, 1,509; Illinois, 1,265; Kentucky, 1,227; California, 1,122; Ohio, 1,082; and West Virginia, 1,021.

Which have the least? Delaware and Rhode Island tie with 55 each, followed by Hawaii with 76, and Nevada with 92. All the others have between 100 and 1,000 post offices. Of course, the District of Columbia has only one post office.